



3rd Sunday of Advent

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

December 15, 2024

Hearing God's Call & Responding in Love,
We Share Jesus With All!

FROM PASTOR ED

John the Baptist prepared Jesus' way, calling people to repentance with the promise of the forgiveness of sins. His words were often harsh and he seems disagreeable, but the salvation that he proclaims in Jesus offers joy and life. The call to repentance, to change our behavior and how we live our lives may seem harsh or at least disagreeable to us, but the Gospel of Jesus is surely going to change us. God's mercy and love is bound to turn us away from ourselves and our desires and turn us towards our God and our neighbors. To believe in Jesus is to be transformed, it is to repent.

May God bless us all with a bit of change,

God bless you all,
Pastor Ed

OUR 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, please contact the church at 573-374-5267 for assistance.

Welcome to Worship

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

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Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Vanessa Hebrank

You are invited to use this time of musical offering to prepare for worship, to open yourself to God, our Father, his Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, present in this place.

Invocation and Opening Dialog

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Look! He is coming with the clouds.

C: Every eye will see him, even those who pierced him.

P: All the nations will be gathered before him,

C: and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Lest that day surprise us unprepared, let us make confession of our sin, asking our heavenly Father to have mercy upon us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. Fearful for our own welfare, we close our eyes to the needs of others, and hoard your generous gifts to satisfy our own desires. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Rejoice with all your hearts! For the sake of Jesus Christ, the Lord has taken away the judgements against us!

C: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

P: Surely, he is coming soon.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Sharing of the Peace (We share a sign of peace with one another.)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

ELW # 254

Liturgy Setting 4

ELW p. 147

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Canticle of Praise: Glory to God in the highest

ELW p. 148

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

All: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ed

Lighting the Advent Candle

P: The third candle of Advent is the candle of PEACE.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

C: Jesus, said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27)

P: Come again, O Lord of Peace.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW # 240, v. 3

Anthem

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Kent Handbells

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Old Testament

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6 (congregation reads responsively)

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

³ **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

Holy Communion

ELW p. 152

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our savior. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. You may commune in place using a communion kit, if preferred.

Communion Hymns

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW # 257, v. 1-4

How Great Thou Art

ELW # 856

Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW # 624

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn

Fling Wide the Door

ELW # 259, v. 1 & 4

The Dismissal

P: Hearing God's call and responding in love,

C: we share Jesus with all!

Postlude

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Vanessa Hebrank

Fellowship Time

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor	Ed Foster
Organist/Pianist	Vanessa Hebrank
Choir Director	Tracy Garrett
Choir Accompanist	Tracey Atzeni
Handbells Director	Toni Wagner

Altar Guild.....Joan Wilken
 Greeters/UshersHansen Family
 LiturgistKatie Heaford
 Lector.....Teri Stout
 Sound & Zoom Technician.....Gail Kruse
 Coffee Fellowship.....Cindy & Al Mohling

COMING THIS WEEK
December 15-22

Today	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts) Handbells Rehearsal
Monday	10:40 a.m.	Westside Senior Center
Tuesday	5:00 p.m.	Church Council Party
Wednesday	10:40 a.m.	Westside Senior Center
	3:00 p.m.	Grief Group
	6:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Worship & Potluck
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	10:40 a.m.	Westside Senior Center
	10:40 a.m.	Westside Senior Center
Friday	10:40 a.m.	Westside Senior Center
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts) Handbells Rehearsal

† Prayer Concerns †

OUR MEMBERS

Joe Poretta
 Maxine Williams
 Liz VanDeVeire
 Donald Brumm

Marsha Gust
 Geri Riley
 Stan Field
 Pat Embich

Jim Gilbert
 Gene Page

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Esther Strothmann
 Mary Ann Carter
 Brandon Rodewald
 Doug Jones
 Sal Caudill
 Patrick Parkhurst
 Kenny Mullins

Cindy Holm
 Kirk McLaughlin
 Stacy Carey
 Ryan Dilhman
 Trudy Hamilton
 Dianne Steingrubey
 Wayne Jackson

Gil Wilde
 Tamara McClain
 Jeanne Hines
 Mike Holmes
 Steve Hughes
 Marcille Bohling

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Julie (Ziehl) Anderson
 Evan Beaupre
 Michelle Becker
 Jessica Birdsong

Cindy Campbell
 Shirley Clark
 Evelyn Clements
 Chuck Cuthbertson

Mary Beth Fair
 Ron Ferguson
 Stacey Fleck
 Al Gann

Ken Gerardy
Carla Glusing
Ruth Goddard & family
CF Huff
Teresa Joslin
Linda Kimberling
Ed Krueger

Blanch Lacroix
Jennifer Pedersen
Jodi (Ziehl) Redmond
Ron Roberts
Marcia Robbins
Michele Schafer
Dave Shaver

Karen Thompson
Karen Tischnor
Theresa White
Bernie Wiegel
Jerry Williams

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock
Eric Blomberg
Ben Brammeier
Shade Bullock
Salathiel (Sal) Caudill
Dylan Craig

Aaron Davis
Tanner Glodt
Kristine Hubbard
Jason Ites
Jason Judge
Adam Kralina

Matt Lee
Jordan Lindeman
Glenn Maddock
Tristan Morgan
Adam Peterson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 15

WELCOME TO KENT MEMORIAL Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our Savior. We invite you to stay for coffee and fellowship (and donuts!) after the service. If you are visiting for the first time or searching for a church home, please include your address and phone number on the Red Friendship Pad and let us know. First time here? Please introduce yourself to Pastor Ed at the end of the service.

CARE CORE for December is Linda Williams, 573-374-9147 or 573-480-3008.

FILLING GOODY BAGS We will pack Christmas goodie bags for Hurricane Deck and Little Tigers today after church, in the fellowship hall. Thank you!

USHERS NEEDED Ushers are needed for every Sunday, and extras on Christmas Eve and Easter. Please sign up. Training is available.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP - ADVENT: THE MUSICAL This Wednesday, December 18, 6pm, we will gather for the final act of ADVENT: The Musical: *All Heaven and Earth Rejoice*. A potluck meal will follow worship, hosted by the Social Ministry Committee.

God's plan of salvation is beginning. God sends holy messengers to common, ordinary but faithful people. Through an elderly couple, a carpenter and young girl God is going to change everything. Through these unlikely people God is going to save the world from sin and death.

VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST Time to volunteer at Community for Christ on Thur. Dec. 26th and Sat. Dec. 28th. The sign-up sheet is on the infamous bulletin board. Thanks to all who have given their time this past year. Because of the giving of time, food donations, money donated, and clothing and household items, there are numerous families in this area who will enjoy the Christmas season. CFC sends all a large Thank You, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

SALVATION ARMY DONATIONS Interesting fact--80% percent of monies donated in this area stay in this area. Remember this when you pass bell ringers. Or if you chose to send in your donation, if possible, make certain that your check shows a zip code of this area. Funds are distributed thru organizations such as Community for Christ. Bless you and thanks for your generosity.

THANK YOU FROM HURRICANE DECK Thanks for your generosity in filling the shelves of Hurricane Deck's Christmas store, and for helping set up. You made a lot of kiddos happy!

ADDITIONAL OFFERING COUNTERS NEEDED The Counting Team Leader would like you to know that we need a few more people to join the counting group. Currently, each team of two counts once every 6 weeks. We would like to add two teams and an additional person to substitute when the need arises. If you would like to help us out by joining this team or if you have any questions about the way it

works, please contact Jane Maher at 812-306- 5462.

COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST PANTRY 'Tis the season once again. We will gratefully accept anything for holiday meals: turkeys, hams, Stove Top Stuffing, potatoes (real or boxed), canned veggies, fruit, and pie fillings. And soups too! Also, condiments of any kind like catsup, mustard, mayo and salad dressings. Bring your donations to church and put them in the big blue box in the narthex, outside of Pastor's office.

THE GREATER LAKE AREA CHORALE will present the final concert in their Christmas season this afternoon, December 15, 2:00 p.m., at First Baptist Church, Eldon. Admission is free.

LAKE AREA COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA will present their Christmas concert this evening, December 15, 7pm, at West Lake Christian Church, Laurie. Admission is free.